10/574773 IAP15 Rec'd PCT/PTO 06 APR 2006

Atty. Dkt. No. 016906-0484

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Christian MERKLE et al.

Title:

COMPONENT AND USE THEREOF AND METHOD FOR THE

PRODUCTION THEREOF

Appl. No.:

Unassigned

Filing Date: 04/06/2006

Examiner:

Unassigned

Art Unit:

Unassigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.115

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the present Application, Applicants respectfully request that the application be amended as follows:

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this document.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 7 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: